

**CORN AND SOYBEANS: Production Cash Costs  
and Returns, Heartland Region, 1999-2000 1/**

Item	Corn		Soybeans	
	1999	2000	1999	2000
	<u>Dollars per Planted Acre</u>		<u>Dollars per Planted Acre</u>	
Gross value of production: (excluding direct Government payments)				
Total, gross value of production	236.64	259.36	186.06	199.80
Operating costs:				
Seed	30.71	30.64	18.41	18.30
Fertilizer, lime, and gypsum	41.56	41.60	7.25	7.23
Soil conditioners	0.10	0.10	0.08	0.14
Manure	0.37	0.36	0.88	0.94
Chemicals	29.95	30.51	25.56	22.58
Custom operations 2/	10.73	10.96	5.90	5.83
Fuel, lube, and electricity	21.08	26.41	5.32	7.78
Repairs	15.62	15.98	9.11	9.50
Other variable cash expenses 3/	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interest on operating capital	3.50	4.51	1.71	2.08
Total, operating costs	153.62	161.07	74.22	74.38
Allocated overhead:				
Hired labor	2.34	2.35	1.32	1.35
Opportunity cost of unpaid labor	30.92	31.80	17.97	18.93
Capital recovery of machinery and equipment	65.70	67.32	49.01	50.96
Opportunity cost of land (rental rate)	97.32	100.73	88.38	90.65
Taxes and insurance	6.30	6.47	6.82	7.04
General farm overhead	10.86	11.11	14.55	14.94
Total, allocated overhead	213.44	219.78	178.05	183.87
Total costs listed	367.06	380.85	252.27	258.25
Value of production less total costs listed	-130.42	-121.50	-66.21	-58.45
Value of production less operating costs	83.02	98.29	111.84	125.42
Supporting information:				
Yield (bu./planted acre)	141	148	42	45
Price (dollars per bushel at harvest)	1.67	1.75	4.43	4.44
Enterprise size (planted acres) 4/	223	223	225	225
Production practices: 4/				
Irrigated (percent)	6	6	2	2
Dryland (percent)	94	94	98	98

1/ The Heartland Region includes portions of South Dakota, Nebraska, Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Minnesota's Ag. Statistics Districts 4, 7, 8, and 9. Minnesota is also part of the Northern Crescent and Northern Great Plains Regions. Information is available about the Northern Crescent and Northern Great Plains Regions on the ERS websites listed below.

2/ Cost of custom operations, technical services, and commercial drying.

3/ Cost of purchased irrigation water.

4/ Developed from survey base year 1996, for corn. Developed from base year, 1997, for soybeans.

Source: Economic Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C.  
Internet Web Site ([www.ers.usda.gov/Data/CostsAndReturns/testpick.htm](http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/CostsAndReturns/testpick.htm))